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PRESS RELEASE

January 9, 2019

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MONTEREY MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO ASSAULT ON OFFICERS WITH A FIREARM

People v Andrew Jones; Case No. 17CR006388

SALINAS, California- Monterey County District Attorney Jeannine M. Pacioni announced today that Andrew Lee Jones, age 41, pled guilty for his firearm assault on Monterey police officers.

On the night of December 17, 2017, Monterey police officers were dispatched to a report of an inebriated man who had a knife and who was believed to be trying to kill himself. The reporting parties were Jones's parents, who also notified dispatch that Jones might have a firearm. Officers Kyle Gentry, Bryan Kruse, and Frank Russo responded to the call for help.

When the officers arrived on scene, they searched the outside of the apartment complex. When the officers again gathered at their patrol cars, Officer Kruse noticed movement in a dark corner of the complex, behind a large sign advertising the location. Officer Kruse saw that Jones was crouched down and he called out to Jones; ordering him to stand up. Instead, Jones fired a round from a .454 Casull handgun and then began to exchange gunfire with the officers. The gunfire stopped when Jones was hit in the shoulder with a bullet.

When the officers approached Jones, he was extremely apologetic and stated that he "was having a bad day" and that he wanted to kill himself.

Jones was treated for his gunshot wound at Natividad Medical Center. The involved officers did not suffer any gunshot wounds.

Today, before Judge Pamela L. Butler, Jones pled guilty to committing an assault with a firearm on Officers Kruse, Gentry, and Russo. Jones faces a maximum sentence of 26 years and 8 months in prison. He will be sentenced on February 27, 2019 at 8:45 a.m. in Department 3 of the Monterey County Superior Court in Salinas.